

Newsletter

Secretariat for the Manila SDG Art Festival and Forum

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Secretariat Members

- Cecile Guidote Alvarez, Director, Earthsavers, UNESCO
- Dr. SunOck Lee, Secretary General, APPAN
- Dr. Viktor Sebek, Chairman SSCC
- Susan Claudio, Executive Assistant
- Nelson Zamora, Director SSCC
- Edgar Avilan, Executive Director SSCC
- Regine Guevara, Co-founder, Asian Youth Peace Network
- Jul Rashid Dilangalen, Intern
- Valerio Ferri, SSCc research Assistant



Mrs Cecile Alvarez meets with President Rodrigo Duterte

On 26th February, Mrs. Cecile Guidote Álvarez, member of SSCC Board met with President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines and briefed him on the Manila SDG Art Festival and Forum. We are pleased to note we have the support of the President.



FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MANILA SDG ART FESTIVAL/FORUM

The International Secretariat for SDG Festival and Forum is pleased to present the first announcement of the Manila SDG Art Festival/Forum which will be held from 20th to 26th May 2020, under patronage of UNESCO.

MAY 20 - 26 | 2020
MANILA

The announcement will be updated on a continuous basis as more delegates and performing artists confirm.



**SDGs ART FESTIVAL/FORUM FOR PEACE AND CLIMATE JUSTICE:
ROADMAP FROM ASIA-PACIFIC TO AFRICAN, ARAB,
CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICAN REGIONS**

Manila, 20-26 May 2020

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE:

Showcasing the Philippines communications agenda in support of south-south cooperation and United Nations programmes on cultural and biological diversity dialogue on sustainable development.

The Philippines is hosting this significant event from 20th to 26th May on the occasion of the UNESCO International Arts Education Week organized by the Earthsavers UNESCO Artists for Peace and the International Theatre Institute (ITI) social change network. It celebrates the diamond jubilee of the UN, 50th Anniversary of Earth Day and Fifth anniversary of the Youth Declaration for Peace, 25th Anniversary of the Magna Carta for Women (Beijing +25). The programme follows the roadmap identified in the May 2018 Manila Declaration for the Global Launch of the International Peace and Climate Justice Movement: Not by Force but by Art, under UNESCO Patronage and special participation of Asia-Pacific Performing Arts Network (APPAN). This agreement was endorsed by the November 2018 Cartagena de Indias SSCC Conference and at December 2018 Katowice COP 24 by the international citizen and art initiative and exhibition ART's PLANET.

STRUCTURE AND PARTICIPANTS:

The event consists of the Festival, Forum and Workshops.

Participants will include:

- Distinguished Cultural Animators/Media leaders/Artists of different disciplines
- UNESCO Artists for Peace
- Parliamentarians and Executive Officers (Basic Education and Culture, Higher Education, Science & Technology, Ecology, Women, Tourism, Science, Poverty Alleviation, Public Information, Trade and Industry, Information and Communications Technology, Human Rights, and indigenous communities.
- Performing groups nominated by APPAN, the ITI Board, SSCC, Earthsavers UNESCO Dreamcenter, to be endorsed by relevant UNESCO national commissions.

HOSTS:

Senate: Office of Senate President Vicente “Tito” Sotto III with the proposed Joint Public Hearing of relevant committees, ed by the Senate SDG Committee chaired by Senator Pia Caytano

City of Manila: Office of Mayor Isko Moreno

ITI / Earthsavers UNESCO Dreamcenter Secretariat:

Unit 1203 Gotesco Tower B, Natividad Lopez Street, Ermita, Manila 1000

cecilia.alvarez7@icloud.com - dreamcenterphilippines@yahoo.com.ph - ysebek@sscc.com.co

+63 915 898 3947, +63 908 902 4890, (landline) +63 285 246 662

PARTNERS:

- UNESCO Assembly of Goodwill Ambassadors and Artists for Peace
- Asian Parliamentarians for Peace, Asian Cultural Council and Asian Youth Peace Movement
- Education Cluster Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education and Technical Educational and Skills Development Authority.
- Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), office of Cultural Diplomacy/UNACOM & United Nations International Organization (UNIO)
- National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)
- Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process
- Department of Tourism
- Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- Department of Social welfare and Development
- Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
- Department of Information, and Communications Technology
- International Theatre Institute (ITI)
- Climate Institute, Washington DC
- ART's PLANET by ENERGIES 2050

Venue: Senate of the Philippines, performances and workshops in theatres in Manila

DELIVERABLES:

Manila Platform of Action which will be adopted at the conference will incorporate the following deliverables:

- Provide examples of how art can build bridges between counties and areas of conflict and encourage similar exercises across the globe in the future
- Strengthen implementation of SDGs through the powerful medium of art and media
- Aid public education at all levels on environmental protection and climate justice through art
- Assist the work of relevant committees in the Philippine Senate led by the relevant committees like the Environment and Climate Change, Culture and Education and Peace and Order Committee led by SDG Committee chaired by the Senator Pia Caytano.
- The festival performances and visual arts exhibitions will showcase models of effective traditional and indigenous arts manifestation seeded with reflection on how to stop violence against mankind and Mother Earth, building harmony, solidarity, kinship with values that can help stop armed conflict and build resilience against climate change catastrophes.
- The Workshop will also provide models for poverty alleviation and therapeutic cultural caregiving services strategy to vulnerable groups for their creative empowerment, healing trauma and rehabilitation efforts for Persons With Disabilities (PWD), refugees, prisoners, and drug addicts.
- Provide input to COP26 and SDGs global agenda

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME:

Forum

- Introduction of participants and delegates: ASPAC Delegation, SSCC representation, Philippine Representation

- Welcome Remarks - Senate Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change, Senator Cynthia Villiar
- Rationale of the proposed Joint Public Hearing led by the SDG Committee chair, Senator Pia Cayetano
- Keynote Address - Senator Vicente “Tito” Sotto
- Message of the President of the Philippines, H.E. Rodrigo Duterte
- Message of the UNESCO Director General, Mrs. Audrey Azoulay
- Message of the Mayor of Manila, Isko Moreno
- Messages from women icons of peace and climate justice: Christina Figueres, former Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Graca Machel, former first lady of South African President Nelson Mandela

Statements by Convenors

- Statement of Objectives and Goals, Cecile Guidote Alvarez, Director Earthsavers UNESCO Artists for Peace
- Statement by Sun Ock Lee, APPAN Secretary General
- Statement by Dr Viktor Sebek, SSCC Chairman: Linkages with Caribbean and Latin America
- Statement by Mohamed Said Al-Afkham, President of the International Theatre Institute, Mayor of Fujairah, United Arab Emirates
- Statement by Stephane Pouffary, CEO, Founder and Honorary President ENERGIES 2050 and ART’s PLANET
- Response from government and business, religious and civil society leaders
- Perspective of South Asia: Mangala Wicramanayake, Former Director General, Environment Ministry Sri Lanka, Member of SSCC Board
- Perspective of the Caribbean: Prof. Alfonso Munera, former Ambassador of Colombia to Jamaica and Trinidad and former secretary General of the Association of Caribbean States
- Philippines perspective and regional inter-faith, intercultural dialogue on SDGs actualization


Workshop

Artist Delegates will pair with local artists in conducting workshops in selected schools and communities with demonstrations.

- Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)
- Prisons
- Rehabilitation Centers for Drug dependents
- Refugee Centers developing a collaborative performance in workshops through paired local cultural group and APPAN SSCC Group in the province for two days

*Delegates and performing groups will be responsible for foreign travel to Manila. The Philippines organizing committee will provide local transport, hotel and food.

Project co-directors


CECILIA GUIDOTE ALAVREZ
 Director, Earthsavers UNESCO


SUN OCK LEE
 APPAN Secretary General


VIKTOR SEBEK
 SSCC Chairman



VATICAN
CITY

ELA GANDHI RECEIVES BLESSING FROM THE POPE IN VATICAN

SSCC congratulates its eminent Board member, Mrs. Ela Gandhi, on receiving blessing from Pope Francis on her visit to Vatican in recognition for her contribution to peace and for holding the torch of Mahatma Gandhi legacy in the world.

Further Senate support for the Manila Forum

Cecile Guidote Álvarez, the initiator of the Manila Forum and member of SSCC Board, Viktor Sebek and Valerio Ferri had a meeting with Vicente Sotto, the President of the Senate. Dr. Sebek thanked him for his video message to the SSCC Cartagena November 2018 Conference. The Senate President confirmed that the Manila Forum will also serve as the Public Senate Hearing, further enhancing the importance of the event. The Senate President is also a musician, a composer. It was decided that Edgar Avilán, SSCC Executive Director, also a composer and musician, will translate some of Senator Sotto's songs in Spanish and have them performed in Colombia.



SSCC also met with Senator Cynthia A. Villar, Chair of the Environment Committee in Senate who has joined forces with the Senate Committee on Sustainable Development Goals under the Senator Pia Cayetano



Support from the House of Representatives

Dr. Sebek and Valerio Ferri accompanied former Senator Heherson Alvarez and Mrs. Guidote at the meeting with Congressman Edgar M. Chatto, Chair of the Climate Change Committee on the House of Representatives. Congressman Chatto expressed his support for the SDG Festival and Forum and confirmed his attendance.

Participation from Colombia and the Caribbean

The SSCC is delighted that Professor Alfonso Munera Cavadia, eminent historian, the founder of the International Institute on Caribbean Studies, former Ambassador of Colombia to Jamaica, then to Trinidad and former Secretary General of the Association of Caribbean States (35 nations), has agreed to take a part at the Forum and Workshops.

Alfonso Múnera Cavadía
El historiador



Media

Following a recent radio interview, the TV station of the Manila Times (newspaper established in 1898) had an one hour programme in which the host was former Senator and Minister, Mr. Heherson Álvarez, also a member of SSCC Board. Dr. Sebek and Valerio Ferri took part in the programme together with Mr. Frederick Asseline, the Chief climate change specialist in the Asian Development Bank.



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